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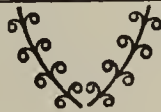
Saxmundham Urban District Council.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Medical Officer of Health,

1937.





To the Chairman and Members

OF THE

Saxmundham Urban District Council.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you a report on the  
Health and Sanitary State of the District for the year 1937.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. W. RYDER RICHARDSON.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres) ...	...	...	...	1107
Population (mid-1937) ...	...	...	...	1361
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937)	...	...	...	437
Rateable Value ...	...	...	...	£8755
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	...	...	£35 : 2 : 8

## Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	TOTAL.	MALE.	FEMALE.
Live Births :—Legitimate	18	8	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Birth Rate :—13.2	Still-births :—1, female, legitimate.		
	TOTAL.	MALE.	FEMALE.
Deaths	16	7	9
Death Rate :—11.8			
Death from Puerperal Causes	...	...	nil.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year old	...	...	nil.
Deaths from Cancer	...	...	2
Deaths from Measles	...	...	nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years old)	...	...	nil.

There were a number of cases of Pneumonia during January and February, one of which was fatal. Cases of Scarlet Fever were notified at intervals during the year. No other outstanding cause of sickness was noted.

## Public Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS :—

MEDICAL :—One part-time Medical Officer.

OTHER :—One part-time Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor,  
Mr. W. C. Morgan, and one part-time Sewerage Surveyor,  
Mr. Flatman.

LABORATORY & AMBULANCE FACILITIES remain as before.

NURSING IN THE HOME:—The arrangement whereby the districts of Kelsale and Carlton have been joined to the Saxmundham and Sternfield district has enabled the District Nurse to be provided with a car and has worked satisfactorily.

### **Hospital Facilities.**

ISOLATION:—It is encouraging to note that the modernisation of the Ipswich Isolation Hospital is under consideration.

GENERAL:—Remain unchanged.

### **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

WATER:—The Town Waterworks have continued to supply water of excellent quality and adequate to the needs of the town. A breakdown of the Candy filter in June caused the water to appear dirty owing to the iron in suspension.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:—Further efforts were made to ensure that no sewage should find its way into the stream. The filter beds still shew the effects of insufficient separation of storm water.

RIVERS AND STREAMS:—The bed of the Fromus still badly needs cleaning out.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:—Steady progress has been made during the past years in the elimination of privies and earth-closets. At present there are 22 pail-closets in the district served by the sewer and 30 in outlying districts.

HOUSE REFUSE:—An improved type of refuse-cart has been purchased which allows of the refuse being carted through the streets without giving offence.



## Housing.

(I)	(1)	Number of houses inspected for defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	32
		Number of inspections made	... ..	34
	(2)	Number of houses which were inspected and recorded	... ..	nil.
	(3)	Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human occupation	... ..	8
(II)		Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notice	... ..	3
(III)		Action under Statutory Powers (under various Acts)		nil.
(IV)		Overcrowding :—One case remains to be remedied.		

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK:—Farms and dairies were inspected on 10 occasions and found to be satisfactory. The drainage of Brook Farm dairy received much-needed attention. A sample of milk from this farm was tested for tuberculosis by animal inoculation with a negative result.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :—Slaughter-houses were inspected on 15 occasions and found to be kept in a cleanly manner. One carcase of a bullock was found to be extensively affected with tuberculosis and was destroyed.

## Infectious and other Diseases.

Eight cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year of which 3 were transferred to the Isolation Hospital. There were no complications and no deaths. Six cases of Pneumonia were notified, of these one case (male, aged 74) was fatal. One case of erysipelas was notified. No cases of tuberculosis were notified. There were no deaths from tuberculosis.



